

Bright Urges House Leadership to Reconsider Moving Forward with Current Health Care Reform Proposal

WASHINGTON,

DC – Today, Congressman Bobby Bright sent a letter to Speaker Pelosi urging her to not move forward with the current health care reform proposals. President Obama and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer were copied on the letter. The text of the letter is pasted below, and a copy is attached to this press release.

Dear
Madam Speaker:

I respectfully write to urge you to reconsider moving forward with efforts to pass the current health care reform proposal. From my perspective, this legislation is too costly and risky, especially in an economy still struggling to recover from a severe recession. Moreover, numerous opinion polls have shown the American people are firmly opposed to the current proposals. While these polls should be taken in context, they do provide a clear indication of where the majority of Americans stand on the health care reform bills pending before Congress.

In addressing the subject of health care, you accurately make the point that no legislation has been more thoroughly debated and discussed than the proposals currently on the table. Reforming our health care system has sparked enormous civic involvement on both sides of the issue, and Americans are incredibly attuned to the day-to-day actions of their government. Without question, an engaged and informed citizenry as envisioned by Thomas Jefferson

is a positive development.

However, the nature of this protracted debate underscores why we should reject efforts to pass a combination of the House or the Senate health care proposal. The American people have had ample time to examine the various proposals and have thus far thoroughly rejected the plans. Frankly, I believe we would be derelict in our duty to serve the will of the people if we move forward with a proposal that lacks the support and confidence of the country at-large.

When I travel across my south Alabama district, my constituents consistently express deep concern about the direction this Congress has taken in regards to health care. Many of them want to see health care reform and know the status quo is unsustainable. However, they rightfully have concerns about the adverse long-term effects on not only our health care system, but our economy as a whole. I fully agree with them, and think we should instead pursue targeted, incremental, and bipartisan health care reform measures.

As Speaker and leader of the people's House, you must maintain a delicate balancing act between leading and following the will of the over 300 million people we serve. This is certainly a tall task. In this case, however, I believe you would be well-served to listen to those we represent rather than moving forward with a widely unpopular overhaul of our health care system.

Sincerely,

Bobby
Bright

Member
of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Barack Obama, President of the
United States of America

Cc: The Honorable Steny Hoyer, Majority Leader,

United States House of Representatives

Congressman Bright's Letter_to Speaker_Pelosi